

**SAN DIEGO COUNTY**  
**Connections II – (\$1,497,945 grant)**

This project is using the Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) model and involves two phases. The Engagement Phase, which occurs either in the jail or in the community, involves information and education about the program, a comprehensive needs assessment, development of a transition plan for offenders who are incarcerated, and development of an individual service plan for all clients. Typically, a case manager and peer specialist work together on these activities. This phase also includes a review of the terms and conditions of probation by a probation officer.

The second phase is Service Delivery and is provided by two multi-disciplinary ACT teams with a maximum caseload of 50 clients. In addition to a case manager, peer specialist and probation officer, each of these teams includes a mental health clinician who serves as team leader, a registered nurse, an employing/housing specialist, and a substance abuse counselor. Team members are available to program participants on a 24/7 basis and provide intensive case management, medication education and support, assistance with housing, employment and disability entitlements, substance abuse interventions, crisis intervention, justice system intervention and support, and peer support.

The county expects to serve a minimum of 100 offenders, most of whom have had repeat contacts with the criminal justice system, during the 18-month grant period. Offenders must be on formal probation to be eligible to participate in the program.

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